



COVID-19 Emergency Response

Asia Pacific Regional Situation Report

Situation Report #20 | 22 October 2020



World Vision is responding to the impact of COVID-19 in **17 countries** in the Asia Pacific, especially in places where children and families are most vulnerable.




(COVID-19 case and death figures for 15 countries with available data. Source: WHO, 18 October 2020)

People Reached

 **14,780,699**

 **Men** 4,051,362 **Women** 4,297,368

Children **6,431,969**

 **Boys** 3,247,958 **Girls** 3,184,011

(Based on figures as of 14 October 2020)

In Asia-Pacific field offices, the COVID-19 response is in the recovery phase. Based on the Early Recovery Rapid Assessment results, livelihood recovery has been prioritised in many countries, with mixed approaches that include in-kind distribution, capacity building and cash-and-voucher programming (CVP).

Not only will the CVP approach support livelihood recovery and sustained food access, but it will also allow World Vision to create a safe environment conducive for child-wellbeing, where families play a lead role in their recovery. Education is also another priority sector, aiming to equip families and low-resourced communities with tools to help children study at home while schools remain closed.

While World Vision continues its recovery response, there continues to be a sporadic surge of COVID-19 in many Asia Pacific countries. As per the World Health Organization's latest¹ update, India has reported over 500,000 new cases per week since late-August, contributing to 91 per cent of cases in the region and 27 per cent of global cases last week. Indonesia is the region's second most affected country with over 28,000 new cases in the past week. Almost 60 per cent of cases to date, have been reported from the island of Java, which includes the capital Jakarta.

In Myanmar, COVID-19 cases have risen sharply, with cumulative numbers almost doubling each week since mid-August. Rakhine State and the country's largest city, Yangon, has reported around 75 per cent of cases and

¹ <https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronavirus/situation-reports/20201005-weekly-epi-update-8.pdf>

Key Concerns



These countries are also affected by the economic slowdown while health systems struggle to cope with the surge in cases. World Vision continues its risk messaging and communications to inform children and communities of situational developments and prepare for the recurring waves of COVID-19.



Continued natural disasters in areas where World Vision has been responding, like the southern China floods, flooding in India, Nepal, and Bangladesh, have had devastating effects on millions since July. As part of disaster preparedness, many Asia-Pacific field offices plan to update their current National Disaster Preparedness Plan in FY21 with double-disaster scenario planning; natural disaster response in a pandemic context.



While organisations develop COVID-19 recovery measures, it's essential to listen to children and youths who have experienced climate change impacts and include their suggestions to accelerate the shift to renewable energy, and to ensure child well-being. The [Guardians of the planet](#) report seeks to inform child-friendly recovery programming. It urges for children's voices to be heard, especially on their vulnerabilities to climate change and disasters that prevent them from exercising their rights. The report was released by five leading international aid agencies, including World Vision.



- World Vision Cambodia continues to produce social media messaging on positive parenting and home-based learning. So far, over 11,800 positive parenting information education materials on psychosocial support for COVID-19, were distributed and over 91,600 educational materials were provided to children to support remote learning.
- World Vision Lanka has successfully advocated the Ministry of Education for policy reforms to adapt education approaches to the “new normal” and for accountability of online and offline education that assures education for all children. At the same time, Sri Lanka has reported a spike in the number of COVID-19 positive cases. The Minuwangoda cluster alone has reported 1,032 COVID-19.
- In Vietnam, World Vision has also provided in-kind support and training for livelihood restoration in rural areas, by providing seeds (rice, corn, peanuts and vegetables), animal stock (chickens, ducks and pigs), agricultural inputs (animal feed, fertilizer, fences, cages, etc.) and training to improve access to alternative short- and medium-term income.
- In Cox's Bazar district, World Vision Bangladesh has developed and implemented a [COVID-19 response plan](#). The programme's strategic objectives aim to scale up preventative measures to limit the spread of the disease among both refugee and host communities, strengthen health systems, support children impacted by COVID-19 through education, child protection, food security and livelihoods, and advocate for protection of vulnerable children.
- Wahana Visi Indonesia is collaborating with the Ministry of Education and Culture (Kemendikbud) to circulate the guidelines for organising remote learning during the COVID-19 health crisis. The guidelines have been packaged in the form of [infographic videos](#) for wider dissemination on digital media platforms.
- World Vision China has specially produced an [educational video about hygiene practices](#). The video is being shared across four children's welfare institutions and three rehabilitation centers in Guangxi and Tianjin. This highlights World Vision's inclusive approach, where the children with disabilities learn from the video to protect themselves against the infection of COVID-19.

Children learn COVID-19 prevention through storybooks and play cards.

Stories from the frontlines

A total of 3,691 children from the northern Cebu province of Philippines received World Vision activity packs that will teach them how to stay healthy during this pandemic.

Each activity pack consists of a small radio, COVID-19 reading materials, a storybook, a set of play cards and school supplies.

The children can play with the play cards, which include a sheet of game instructions, while learning about the many ways in keeping a healthy body. Meanwhile, the storybook shares an engaging story about a child who is a wannabe superhero and her fight against a threatening virus.

A small transistor radio can also be used by the entire family especially in receiving news about important COVID-19 updates. Parents who never owned a radio in their entire life were astonished to know that they're getting one from the pack.

World Vision also added a set school supplies such as notebooks, paper, and pen that will be useful for the children in the upcoming school opening.

Trisha shares that she reading the storybook. "I can relate to Mikmik and I learned an important lesson from her story," the 9-year-old girl says. While Trisha's cousin, Kim, says that the play cards are fun to play with because of its attractive cartoon drawings and engaging game.

For Racquel, Trisha's mother, she says that it is also important for people to receive information during this time of uncertainty. "The radio will be very helpful for us to receive news about COVID-19 especially now that the virus is still threatening lives," she expresses.

To date, World Vision in the Philippines has reached more than 5 million individuals with its COVID-19 Emergency Response. Of this number, 1.2 million are children. Assistance includes provision of school supplies, relief goods, cash, protective equipment for frontliners and tents for isolation units.





RESPONSE GOAL

To limit the spread of COVID-19 and reduce its impact on vulnerable children and families

Strategic Objectives



1. Scale up preventive measures to limit the spread of disease



2. Strengthen health systems and workers



3. Support for children impacted by COVID-19 through education, child protection, food security, and livelihoods



4. Collaborate and advocate to ensure vulnerable children are protected

OBJECTIVE 1: Scale up preventive measures to limit the spread of disease



5,872,657

People reached through promotion of preventive behaviours



2,058,820

Information, education, and communication materials printed and distributed



4,353,474

Community members provided preventive materials



1,417,752

Handwashing supplies distributed



1,836,066

Comprehensive hygiene kits distributed



10,338

Cleaning kits distributed to vulnerable communities



14,789

Community-level public handwashing stations established or maintained



2,409

Water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities constructed or rehabilitated



4,678

Faith leaders disseminating preventive measures

(Based on figures as of 14 October 2020)

OBJECTIVE 2: Strengthen health systems and workers



13,971

Community health workers trained and supported



84,444

Medical personnel provided personal protective equipment (PPE)



3,711,011

Masks distributed, including to health facilities, health workers and communities



754,391

Glove sets distributed, including to health facilities, health workers and communities



2,430

Medical facilities assisted



104,996

Disinfectant kits distributed to health care facilities



13,381

People supported with the securing of safe quarantine and/or isolation spaces



292

Quarantine and isolation spaces supported, rehabilitated or set-up



1,373

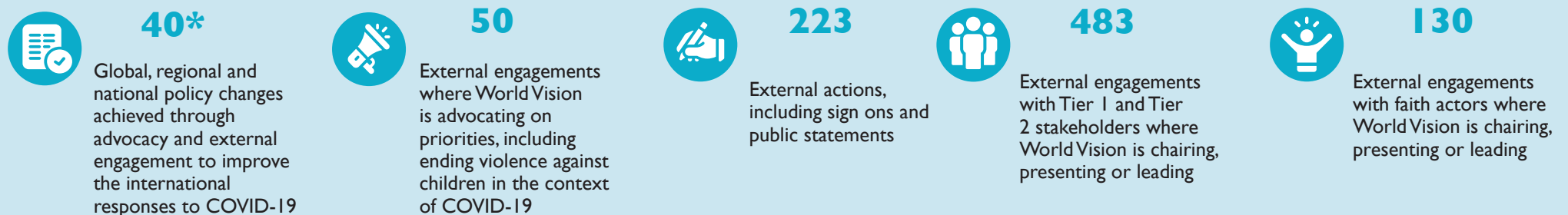
People provided transportation support

(Based on figures as of 14 October 2020)

OBJECTIVE 3: Support for children impacted by COVID-19 through education, child protection, food security, and livelihoods



OBJECTIVE 4: Collaborate and advocate to ensure vulnerable children are protected



**Examples of Tier 1 and Tier 2 stakeholders include WFP, WHO, Global Fund, UNICEF, UNHRC, UNOCHA, and national governments*

(Based on figures as of 14 October 2020) 5



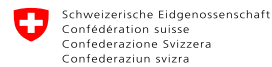
In India, Children attend Bridge Centre run by World Vision India in the community to provide learning support for children who are not in school. This gives them an informal learning platform and an open opportunity to enroll in school later. In spite of the lockdown the Bridge Centre has continued.

©World Vision

We would like to thank our generous donors, partners, and supporters including:



European Union
Civil Protection and
Humanitarian Aid



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Kunal Shah
Acting Regional Humanitarian
Emergency Affairs Director
Asia Pacific Region
kunal_shah@wvi.org

Neville Wepener
Resource Development Director
Asia Pacific Region
neville_wepener@wvi.org

Annila Harris
Humanitarian Emergency Communications
Asia Pacific Region
annila_harris@wvi.org